

funds promised. We need to do a better job of keeping the IDEA promise, and I am proposing that we strive to meet this goal.

My bill will achieve the 40 percent level in 2011. By steadily increasing funds over the next 10 years, we would demonstrate our commitment to our local school districts and practice fiscal prudence.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in meeting the IDEA promise.

#### EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE COMMITTEE BOYCOTT

(Mr. RODRIGUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned about the decision of the Committee on Education and the Workforce to split the higher education issues.

I take offense that the higher education issues affecting Hispanic-serving institutions and historically black universities and colleges are not considered as mainstream, and, therefore, the bias-skewed mentality found it necessary to group them with such disparate issues as juvenile justice, runaway youths and other social issues.

It is a form of segregation and placing blame and blaming the victim. I am really concerned that the mentality that created the proposal is one that is placing blame rather than acknowledging that we all have a problem, that we all need to take ownership, that we all need to solve the issue and not designate it as a problem that belongs to one group or another, given that our Hispanic-serving institutions and our historically black colleges and universities are assisting youth and people throughout the country to make sure that they meet the challenges of the 21st century.

I have spoken to my universities back home, and they are seriously concerned with what has happened in the Committee on Education and the Workforce and, therefore, I ask the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER), the chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, to reconsider this decision and let us make sure that every child is not left behind.

□ 1015

#### URGING SUPPORT FOR THE PEACE CORPS PROGRAM

(Mr. WALSH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 40th anniversary of the Peace Corps. Thirty years ago, I left my very comfortable middle-class home in Syracuse, New York for a

thatched hut with a mud floor in the foothills of Nepal. I made a lot of friends. I gained a lot more knowledge than I imparted.

But today, I stand before my colleagues, among other Members of Congress, who served in the Peace Corps. Many of us are back home providing productive lives and leadership throughout many sectors of our country.

The knowledge of the world that these Peace Corps, former Peace Corps volunteers provide becomes more and more valuable as the world gets smaller. Congress needs to continue its strong support for this program. There are benefits certainly to the world in terms of better international relations, and it provides a constant infusion of new leaders to our country.

So, Mr. Speaker, I urge strong support for the continued Peace Corps program.

#### JUST DO IT

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, just do it. Go ahead, return the historically black colleges and universities and the Hispanic-serving universities to the subcommittee where they belong, the subcommittee that has jurisdiction over higher education, the Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness, the subcommittee for this century.

Separating historically black, Hispanic, and tribal institutions from the higher education subcommittee is insulting. It is harmful. It takes us back to the 19th century.

The Republicans' decision is insulting and harmful. It is harmful to our colleagues. It is harmful to the institutions, to the students, and those who attend them, and it is harmful to our Nation.

What good reason could there be for not changing this decision? There is no good reason. Just do it.

#### STEEL REVITALIZATION ACT

(Mrs. JONES of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to discuss the steel crisis which has forced American steel producers like LTV Corporation in my city into bankruptcy. Today under the leadership of the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN), we will introduce, along with the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY), the Steel Revitalization Act.

The aim of this legislation is to aid American steel producers through import relief, legacy cost sharing, adjust-

ing the Steel Loan Guarantee Program, and providing incentives to consolidate. We hope this legislation will help all steelworkers.

The flood of illegally subsidized foreign steel into American markets have caused our companies to declare bankruptcy at alarming rates.

I find it somewhat ironic that we are introducing the Steel Caucus package on the same day the House is expected to debate the bankruptcy reform.

Estimates of the cost of the economic impact of losing LTV in Cleveland show that the steel maker pays \$338 million in annual wages and salaries and \$68 million in benefits.

I urge my colleagues to support the Steel Revitalization Act and would press the House leadership to bring this legislation to the floor quickly.

#### EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE SUBCOMMITTEE JURISDICTIONS

(Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, the exclusion of minority higher education issues from the Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness is a step backward. Congress must take a step forward and combine all higher education programs into one subcommittee.

In my district, Puerto Rico, I am proud to represent 46 institutions of higher education, both public and private, and comprised of over 174,000 students. Compared to many districts, my schools are permanently populated by minority students, and I am here to raise their voice in opposition.

By targeting minorities and placing them in a separate subcommittee with at-risk youth, child abuse, and domestic violence connotes that minorities are a problem in our society, when in reality it is the mixing of many cultures that make this Nation strong.

As minorities grow in numbers and influence our country, we have not forgotten our roots or the pain or discrimination of being ignored or left behind. Minorities seek and demand the same high quality education as the rest of the society. This exclusionary action lessens the quality and promotes ignorance.

I join my fellow colleagues today to let our voice be heard, our presence be known.

#### SEPARATE BUT EQUAL IS NOT ACCEPTABLE IN AMERICA

(Ms. MCCOLLUM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today, I am giving my first speech on the House floor. It is a great privilege to be